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Facsimile 847 - 905 - 7113

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PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION**

Date: FEBRUARY 5, 2004

To: EXAMINER THOMAS J. WILLIAMS
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Fax #: (703) 872-9326

From: FRANK C. NICHOLAS
Fax #: (847) 424-2521

Client/Matter No.: DP-305565 (7500/87)

of Pages: 13
(including cover sheet)

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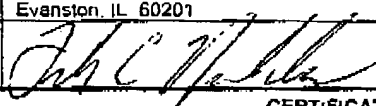
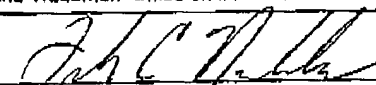
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| | | |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | Attorney Docket No | DP-305585 (7500/87) |
| | Application Number | 10/081,122 |
| | Filing Date | FEBRUARY 22, 2002 |
| | First Named Inventor | BRYAN P. RIDDIFORD |
| | Group Art Unit | 3683 |
| | Examiner | WILLIAMS, THOMAS J. |

| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Non-Final Office Action Dated January 6, 2004 <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request (dupl.) <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449, art <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawings: <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Petition Roving Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition <input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Request of Refund | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Post Card Receipt <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. 50-1713. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. | | |

CALCULATION OF FEE

| | | | | Small Entity | | Large Entity | |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------|--|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
| Claims After Amendment | Highest No Previously Paid For | Present Extra | | Rate | Add'l Fee | Rate | Add'l Fee |
| Total | Minus | 0 | | x \$9= | 0 | x \$18= | |
| Indep | Minus | 0 | | x \$43= | 0 | x \$86= | |
| First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim | | | | + \$145= | — | + \$290= | |
| | | | | total add'l fee | | total add'l fee | |
| | | | | \$ 0 | | \$ 0 | |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | | | |
|--|---|------|------------------|
| Firm or Individual name | FRANK C. NICHOLAS Registration No. 33,983 CARDINAL LAW GROUP 1603 Orrington Avenue, Suite 2000 Evanston, IL 60201 | | |
| Signature |  | Date | February 5, 2004 |
| CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE | | | |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is transmitted by facsimile to (703) 872-9326 to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on this date: February 5, 2004 | | | |
| Signature |  | Date | February 5, 2004 |
| FRANK C. NICHOLAS (33,983) | | | |

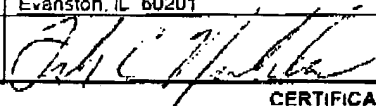
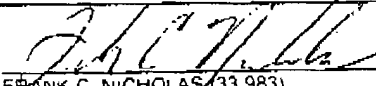
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 (2) The Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will require a separate fee for each application in a separate fee schedule and a separate fee schedule

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|---|----------------------|---------------------|
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| | Filing Date | FEBRUARY 22, 2002 |
| | First Named Inventor | BRYAN P. RIDDFORD |
| | Group Art Unit | 3883 |
| | Examiner | WILLIAMS, THOMAS J. |

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|---|------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------|----|--|-----------------|-----------|
| | Claims After Amendment | Highest No Previously Paid For | Present Extra | Rate | Add'l Fee | | | Rate | Add'l Fee |
| Total | Minus | | 0 | x \$9= | 0 | | | x \$18= | |
| Indep. | Minus | | 0 | x \$43= | 0 | | | x \$86= | |
| First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim | | | | + \$145= | | | | + \$290= | |
| | | | | total add'l fee | | | | total add'l fee | |
| | | | | \$ 0 | | | | \$ 0 | |

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| Firm or Individual name | FRANK C. NICHOLAS Registration No. 33,983 CARDINAL LAW GROUP 1603 Orrington Avenue, Suite 2000 Evanston, IL 60201 | | |
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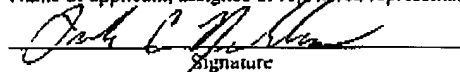
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FRANK C. NICHOLAS (33,983)

Name of applicant, assignee or registered representative


SignatureFebruary 5, 2004

Date of Signature

PATENT
Case No. DP-305565
(7500/87)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

BRYAN P. RIDDIFORD, ET AL.

Serial No.: 10/081,122

Filed: FEBRUARY 22, 2002

Title: FAST MODE RELEASE IN A FORCE
GENERATING APPARATUSExaminer:
WILLIAMS, THOMAS J.
Group Art Unit: 3683RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED JANUARY 6, 2004Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22202-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a response to a Non-Final Office Action dated January 6, 2004. The
Applicants respond as follows: